

HOW IMPORTANT IS COMMUNION TO SALVATION?

There are a number of steps to salvation and through this article; we shall explore if taking or receiving communion is a critical step towards salvation.

The title of this article may prove to be strange to many who confess to be followers of Jesus Christ yet never really think or believe partaking of communion to be critical to their salvation. Nonetheless, your attention is drawn to the words of Jesus recorded in St. John 6:53: “Except ye eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink His blood, ye have no life in you.” Let us therefore thoroughly examine this proclamation.

St. John -- Chapter 6 depicts Jesus; knowing He was about to be crucified, instituted communion with the disciples, or what is commonly referred to as the “Lord’s Supper” speaks these words to His disciples, “Verily, verily, I say unto you, Except ye eat the flesh of the Son of man, and drink His blood, ye have **no life in you.**” Keep in mind, He was about to enter death at the cross; giving of His body and shedding of His blood.

Jesus continues to speak to His disciples in St. John 6:54;56: “Whoso eateth my flesh, and drinketh my blood, hath eternal life; and I will raise him up at the last day; He that eateth of my flesh, and drinketh my blood, dwelleth in me, and I in Him An infinite promise of Eternal life for all who partake of the body and blood of Jesus Christ. When we honor and trust Him by eating His flesh and drinking His blood, His Spirit lives in us and works through us; thus guiding and directing our path and leading us in the way of righteousness.

Additionally, in St. Luke 22:19, Jesus provides this instruction, “This do in remembrance of me.” Each time we partake of His body and blood, we commemorate what Jesus did for us on the cross; how He offered Himself for our salvation that we might live. As we consider this precious unearthly gift we should forever be humbled for the ransom paid for us and be eternally grateful for His love, mercy and grace.

One final point to address equally critical is the condition of one’s self prior to acceptance and receiving of the body and blood of Christ. Paul writes in I Corinthians, Chapter 11:28-30; “But let a man examine himself, and so let him eat of that bread, and drink of that cup. For he that eateth and drinketh unworthily, eateth and drinketh damnation to himself, not discerning the Lord's body. For this cause many are weak and sickly among you, and many sleep.” As we consider these scriptures, not only is the importance of accepting the body and blood of Jesus Christ through Holy Communion “critical and absolute” for our Spiritual being, but self-examination is also a requirement!

Ensure you are **worthily** drinking of His blood and eating His flesh. Your life depends on it!